attendant advantages of technology transfer, marketing expertise, modern managerial techniques and new possibilities for exports. India, therefore, welcomes all forms of foreign investment wherever it is in the interest of the country's industrial development, creation of more employment opportunities, additionality in exports etc.

(b) and (c) As per Common Minimum Programme, entry of multinationals into low priority areas including consumer goods sector will be discouraged through suitable fiscal and other measures. As such, foreign investment approvals in respect of 22 specified industries in the consumer goods sector, carry the condition of dividend balancing wherein the outflow of foreign exchange on account of dividend payments is to be balanced by export earnings over a period of 7 years.

Loss miking Public Sector Undertakings

1580. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had suffered losses of Rs.5,000 crore in the loss making units which had been taken over by them;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Unit-wise and State and Union territories-wise, as-against profit making units at present;

(c) whether Government have asked the Disinvestment Commission also to take a look of the 40 PSUs referred to it and decide which were strategic and which were non-strategic, if so, the findings/outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps Government have taken so far to make public sector more efficient and more productive, to make them grow and expand and to maximise their returns?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Enterprise-wise detail of net profit/ loss of 47 taken over enterprises during last five years from 1990-91 to 1994-95 is given in Statement No. 7 C of Volume-I of Public Enterprises Survey 1994-95 laid in both Houses of Parliament on 19.7.96. State-wise and Union Territory-wise distribution of these PSEs is given in Appendix-III of the said Volume.

(c) Yes, Sir. 40 PSUs have been referred to Disinvestment Commission for its study.The Commission has recently submitted its report only in respect of 3 enterprises namely, Modern Food Industries Ltd., India Tourism Development Corpn. Ltd. and Gas Authority of India Ltd. Other reports are expected to follow.

(d) Steps for improving the performance of PSUs and making them efficient and productive are enterprise specific. However, some of the steps taken in this regard include periodical performance review meeting by the administrative Ministries/Departments, delegation of enhanced power to Board of Directors, professionlisation of Board Management, reduction of surplus man power through VRS, technological upgradation, etc.

Economic development of North Eastern States

1581. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state: to what extent Government have taken action for economic development of the North Eastern States as per recommendations as contained in the 17th report of Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry presented on the 7th March, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry in their 17th Report has mentioned that there is need for a time bound programme to be drawn up for economic development of the North Eastern region with emphasis on development of basic infrastructure